

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as indefinite. Claim 1 is further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0008659 to Waters et al. (hereafter "Waters"). Claims 2-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Waters in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0078054 to Okuda. Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Waters in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0094823 to Suzuki et al. (hereafter "Suzuki"). Applicants hereby cancel claims 1-10 in favor of new claims 11-19. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 11-16

Claim 11 recites a method of managing positioning information for a plurality of nodes connected to a network. The method substantially recites, in part, "receiving first routing information from a first node connected to the network, said first routing information containing positioning data for said first node ... receiving second routing information from a second node connected to the network, wherein said second routing information does not contain positioning data for said second node ... and calculating positioning data for the second node according to a predetermined equation using said first and second routing information." Thus, a predetermined equation is used to calculate positioning data for a second node when the position of the second node is not already known. There is no requirement for the positioning data calculated for the second node to be the same as the positioning data received from the first node.

As best understood, Waters discloses a method for locating missing devices that involves searching activity logs to establish a last-known position. If a device cannot supply its own position, positioning data for a nearby device may be used in the locating process. According to Waters, "It may not always be possible to get a location fix for a piconet device when it is in a network... and so not all activity log entries for a piconet device may have a location associated with them. If direct piconet connection is made between a first device which

has no inherent self-location abilities and another, second, device which does know its own location, then the first device may assume itself to be at the same, known, location as the second device." Waters at ¶¶23-24. Thus, Waters does not teach performing a calculation to determine the location of a device, but merely provides a user with information about the device's last-known location. This information may or may not correspond to the missing missing. It is up to the user to go and look for the device at the location provided. See, Waters at ¶32. Therefore, Waters does not teach calculating positioning data for a device according to a predetermined equation as recited in the claimed invention.

As discussed above, Waters does not teach or suggest the elements of claim 11. Specifically, Waters does not disclose "receiving first routing information from a first node connected to the network, said first routing information containing positioning data for said first node ... receiving second routing information from a second node connected to the network, wherein said second routing information does not contain positioning data for said second node ... and calculating positioning data for the second node according to a predetermined equation using said first routing information received from said first node."

Claims 12-16 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 11 and are believed allowable over the cited references for at least these same reasons. Applicants therefore respectfully request consideration and allowance claims 11-16.

Claims 17-20

Claim 17 recites a system for managing positioning information for a plurality of nodes connected to a network. The system includes, in part, "a position determining unit configured to receive first routing information from a first node connected to the network, said first routing information containing positioning data for said first node ... the position determining unit further configured to receive second routing information from a second node connected to the network, wherein said second routing information does not contain positioning data for said second node ... the position determining unit further configured to calculate positioning data for the second node according to a predetermined equation using said first and second routing information." The system also includes "a display unit configured to display a

Appl. No. 10/808,923
Amdt. sent May 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 04, 2006

PATENT

first symbol representing a position of said first node and a second symbol representing a position of said second node."

For reasons similar to those presented in connection with claim 11, Applicants submit that the cited references fail to teach or suggest the system of claim 17. Claims 18-20 depend from claim 17 and are believed allowable for at least the reason that they depend from an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY: sar : cmm
60725842 v1